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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/699,963	11/05/1999	Angela Masson	MASSON-001-US	4776
62008	7590	09/14/2010	EXAMINER	
MAIER & MAIER, PLLC 1000 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			TO, TUAN C	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3663	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			09/14/2010	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/699,963	Applicant(s) MASSON, ANGELA	
	Examiner TUAN C. TO	Art Unit 3663	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 July 2010.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 68, 69, 71, 73-77 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 68, 69, 71 and 73-77 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05 February 2007 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 68, 69, 71, and 73-77 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cline et al. (US 4642775).

Regarding claim 68, Cline et al. discloses a system/method of providing a portable computer for use by a aircraft aviation professional (see Cline et al, abstract)

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comprising: a portable computer (40) to be carried by an pilot to and from and within an aircraft and airport (abstract, figure 1, portable computer 40 is carried by a pilot), the portable computer (40) is provided to pilot for performing variety of tasks including: processing flight information (column 5, lines 20-24), manipulating flight related data to aid in flight decision-making processes resulting in solutions to flight related mathematical computations and runway selections and aircraft operating parameters and procedure (column 7, lines 44-51), calculating pilot fatigue limits and scheduling issues and fuel computations (column 6, lines 56-68; column 1-10), and providing data displays to the pilot (figure 1, column 7, lines 36-51), wherein the display unit (42) of the portable computer is a liquid crystal display that can display a variety of information. In Cline, the pilot can perform the task of loading aircraft and flight related data such as flight plan, weather information, aircraft crew schedule, aircraft maintenance information, aircraft load weight, and balance, and flight passenger concerns into said portable computer (40) using keyboard (44) for entering data into the computer (40) (column 5, lines 20-24; column 8, lines 1-13). The pilot uses the portable computer (40) to acquire the flight plan from a ground-based data center, wherein the flight plan includes but do not limit to weather information, aircraft crew schedule information, aircraft maintenance information, aircraft load weight and balance information, and aircraft manifest information up to minute basis. In response to the pilot's request of flight plan, the data center (30) transmits all flight plan related information including weather information to the portable computer for displaying on its display unit. After

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reviewing the weather information, the pilot may amend one or more of his flight plan inputs and requests a new flight plan.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the portable computer as taught by Cline while en route for performing another flight plan related tasks.

It is important to note that Cline et al. includes all necessary components to implement the desired use of the claimed method including the additional steps (e), (f), and (g).

As to claim 69, Cline et al. teaches that the flight plan and weather information stored on the disk (54) can be loaded into the computer (40). Thus, Cline et al. inherently teaches that an aviation manual for flight operating and emergency procedure, and charts for an off-line emergency airport stored on a floppy disk can be loaded into the computer (40).

As to claim 71, Cline et al. teaches that the computer (40) is a knee-top ergonomic style unit (see figure 1).

As to claims 73-77, Cline et al further discloses that the aircraft data and flight related data are inputted by the pilot can be done remotely (figure 1).

While patent drawings are not drawn to scale, relationships clearly shown in the drawings of a reference patent cannot be disregarded in determining the patentability of claims. See In re Mraz, 59 CCPA 866, 455 F.2d 1069, 173 USPQ 25 (1972).

Response to Arguments

The applicant's request of continued examination filed 07/21/2010 has been fully considered. However, claims 68, 69, 71, and 73-77 are not patentable over the cited prior art for at least the following reasons:

In response to the applicant's comments regarding the previous rejection applied to claims 68, 69, 71, and 73-77, the examiner has found the relied portion of Cline suggests the limitations presented in the current claims.

It is important to note that Cline discloses a portable computer for use by a aircraft aviation professional. The portable computer is utilized to acquire the flight plan from a ground-based data center, wherein the flight plan includes but do not limit to weather information, aircraft crew schedule information, aircraft maintenance information, aircraft load weight and balance information, and aircraft manifest information up to minute basis. Furthermore, upon the request of flight plan of the pilot, the data center transmits all flight plan related information including weather information to the computer for displaying on its display unit. After reviewing the weather information, the pilot may amend one or more of his flight plan inputs and requests a new flight plan. While using the portable computer to request the flight plan related information from the data center, the user can use a floppy disk for storing all the information for future use on-board aircraft.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the portable computer as taught by Cline while en route for performing another flight plan related tasks.

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For at least the reasons set forth above, the current claims 68, 69, 71, and 73-77 would not be patentable over the cited prior art.

Conclusions

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan C To whose telephone number is (571) 272-6985. The examiner can normally be reached on from 8:00AM to 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack Keith can be reached on 571-272-6878.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Tuan C To/

Primary Examiner

August 18, 2010

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